HANNA-BARBERA'S

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and the Headless Horseman

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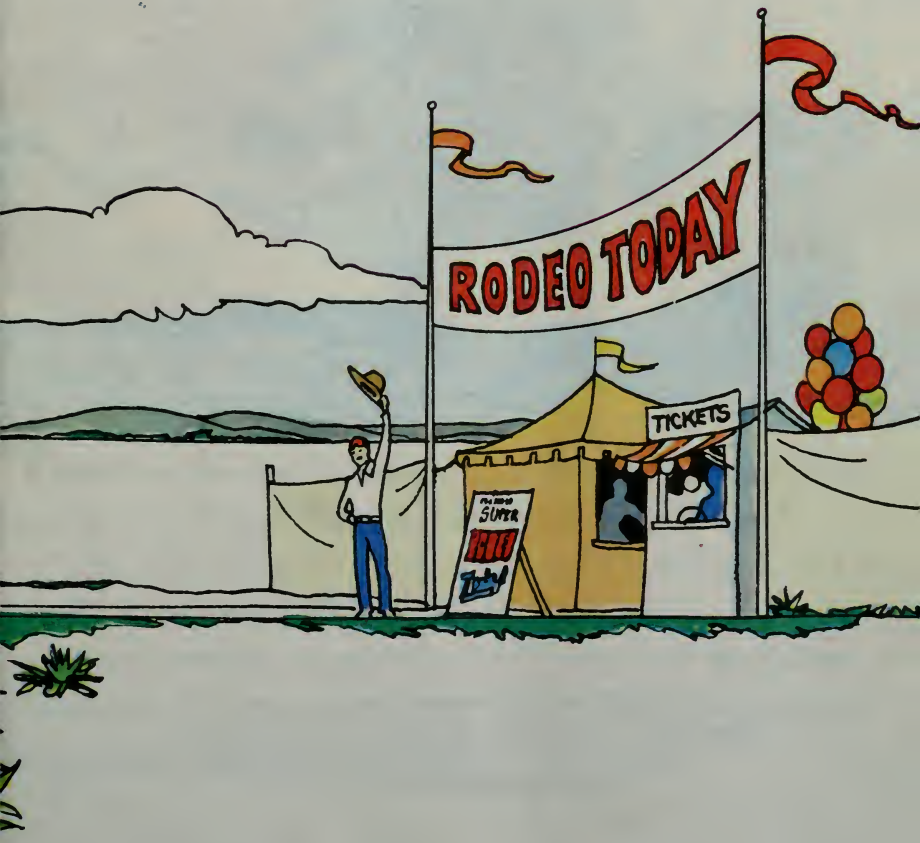

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"There's the Rodeo," said Daphne. "Cowboy Len is waving. Fred, stop the Mystery Machine."

"Am I glad you kids are here!" said Cowboy Len.

Fred asked, "What's the trouble?"

The cowboy sneaked a look over his shoulder. "There's dirty work afoot. A Headless Horseman is scaring people away from our Rodeo."

Shaggy muttered, "Yikes! A Headless Horseman This Rodeo is haunted!"

Scooby-Doo dived behind the Rodeo poster.

"There must be a logical explanation," said Velma. "Mystery, Inc. will figure it out."

Cowboy Len said, "I think we're being watched. Go inside and search for clues."

COWBOY LEN'S
SUPER
RODEO
Today!

Scooby smelled the meat and joined the gang.
After five juicy hot dogs, Shaggy relaxed.
"Can you describe the Headless Horseman?"
Daphne asked May, the hot dog girl.

"He's mean, nasty, ornery and *all bad!* He'll stop at nothing to break up the Rodeo!"

"Wow!" exclaimed Shaggy.

The hot dog girl warned, "Leave now—or you may never get out of here!"

"Nonsense," Velma said. "Nobody is going to scare us off."

"Look!" cried Fred. "They're starting the Grand Entry Parade of Flags."

Suddenly a figure riding a giant, black stallion swooped down on the parade.

"The Headless Horseman!" yelled Daphne.

A voice like a foghorn bellowed, "Fe-Fi-Fo-Fum! This Rodeo is really dumb!"

"Stop him!" Velma shouted.

Shaggy took one look. "Holy Moly!" He climbed on a palomino's back. Scooby-Doo jumped up behind him whimpering.

"The Headless Horseman got away!" cried Daphne.

"If you don't capture him tonight, there'll be no Rodeo," Cowboy Len said sadly.

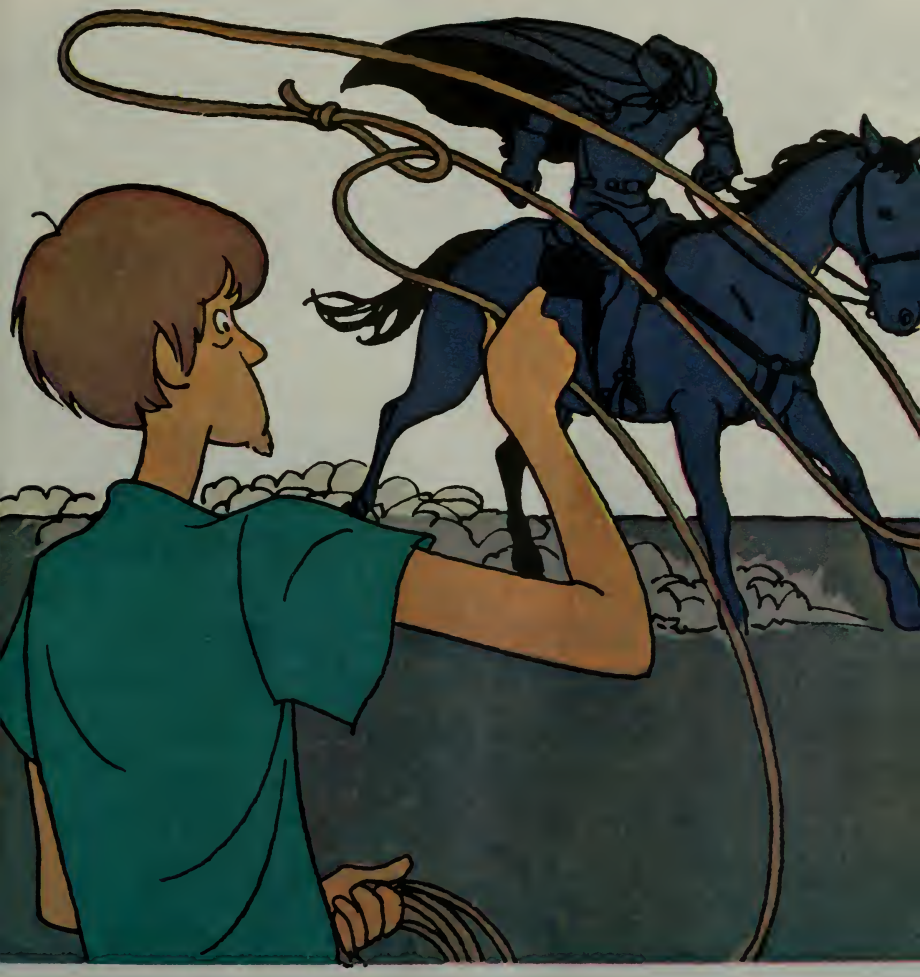
Fred brought the lariats from the Mystery Machine. "All right, gang, it's time for the Bareback Bronco Riding. Spread out and cover the arena. When the Headless Horseman rides again, lasso him, and tie him up."

At that moment, there was a loud *swoooosh* and the lights went out.

A voice roared in the dark. "Alakazoo-Alakazam, catch the Headless Rider—if you can!"

Shaggy's arms went goose bumps. He threw his lariat into the air. There was a thump. Had he lassoed the Headless Rider? Someone was howling.

"Scooby-Doo! Where are you?" yelled Shaggy.



The lights went on. Shaggy gasped. The Headless Horseman had vanished, but Scooby was astride a bucking bronco with a rope tangled around him. "*Yeow!!*" he howled.

The bronco gave a mighty heave and Scooby-Doo fell off.

"This is awful," said Cowboy Len. "No progress on the case. I'll call Agent 008."

"Give us another chance," pleaded Fred.

"We can't quit now. We've planned a secret operation," said Daphne.

Cowboy Len nodded. "Okay. Just once more."

Later, when the gang was on horseback, Velma said, "Everyone thinks we're going to help wrestle the steers. But we're really here for Operation Baldy."

Fred said, "Let's go over our plan again."

"I guard the light switches," said Daphne. "Velma snatches the Headless Horseman's cape."

Shaggy's teeth chattered. "Fred and I hold the rope across the gate."

The next event began. A steer ran out of the chute. The cowboy slid off his horse, seized the steer by his horns, and wrestled him to the ground.

Suddenly, a puff of smoke covered the arena. *Kaboom!!!*

The Headless Horseman galloped in shouting, "Ibbity-Bibbity-Zibbity-Zab. Here's a rider you can't nab!"

Operation Baldy went into action.

But the Headless Horseman grabbed Daphne, lifted her on his horse, and leaped over the rope.

"After him!" shouted Fred. "He's got Daphne!"

"Jump up, Scooby-Doo," said Shaggy.

The Headless Horseman leaped over four barrels and a black cat, and kept on galloping. The gang followed him into the calf pen and out again.

"He's heading for the hot dog stand!" shouted Velma.

When they reached the stand, May pointed, "They went thata way!"

But the gang met a brick wall. They circled back.

Fred yelled, "There he is!"

Just then Scooby-Doo sniffed something. He umped off and began to dig furiously. It was a yummy bone.

The Headless Horseman galloped up. He didn't see the hole Scooby had dug, and his horse tripped. The gang surrounded him.

"Thanks, guys, for rescuing me," Daphne said, hugging Scooby-Doo.

Cowboy Len rode up. "Good work! You caught the beast. Pull off his disguise!"

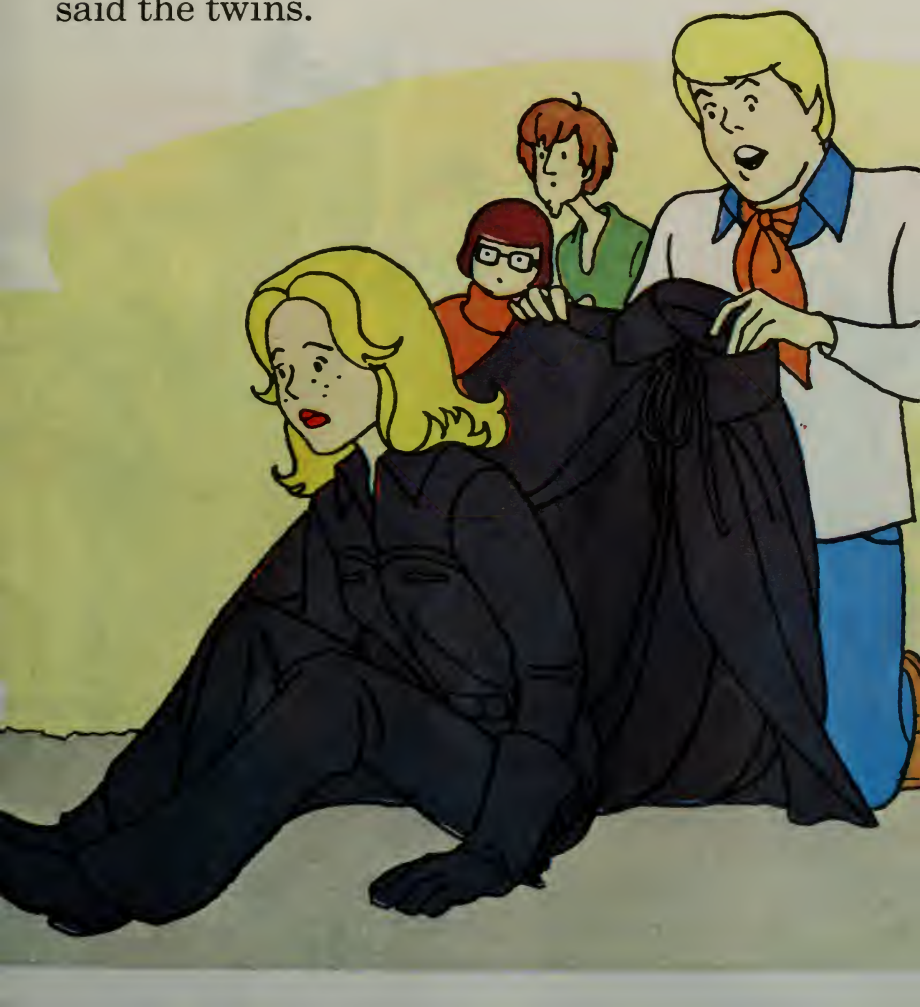
"Wow!!!" Everyone gasped. "It's May, the hot dog girl!" said Fred.

"Who's minding the store?" asked Shaggy.

The gang stared at the hot dog stand, *but May was there!* "Meet June, my twin. We take turns being the Headless Horseman," she explained.

Cowboy Len was puzzled. "Why do you want to break up my Rodeo?"

"Because you won't let us be Rodeo riders," said the twins.



"I didn't know girls could ride as well as you two. From now on you have jobs in my Rodeo."

"Thanks to Mystery, Inc. and especially Scooby-Doo, the Rodeo will be better than ever."

"How about some hot dogs, guys?" asked the twins.

"All you can eat," Cowboy Len added.

Scooby thumped his tail. The gang laughed and everyone hurried over to the stand.